

## Dear Friends:

As the sun sets on 2019, we look back on a year that presented both heart-wrenching struggles and hopeful victories. Racism surged and governments cracked down on essential freedoms. Unprecedented droughts, storms and floods caused by climate change claimed lives. Women suffered profound threats to their human rights. *But we forged ahead to create change.*

**In 19 countries around the world, the AJWS community supported 487 extraordinary grassroots organizations that persevered in our unceasing fight for justice and equality.**

Our grantees in Guatemala are building a powerful movement to challenge their authoritarian government and create a more equitable society. In India, women's rights activists empowered girls to enter new frontiers of education and leadership. Indigenous communities protected their ancestral forests in Thailand. Courageous first responders aided survivors of tsunamis in Indonesia and rose to stop a horrific genocide in Burma. And here in the U.S., when our government threatened the security and humanity of vulnerable people worldwide, we raised our voices on Capitol Hill to insist that our representatives pass legislation that protects human rights.

**2020 is on the horizon. And we're ready for the challenges that lie ahead.**

Thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, we're building a new world—brick by brick, person by person, community by community, movement by movement. Together, we're acting on our Jewish values, passed down generation to generation, to repair the imperfect world we have inherited. Inspired by our history, our eyes are on the future.

**It's a new year, and the urgency of our times demands action.**

Thank you for your support in 2019 and beyond. With our deepest gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Bank".

Robert Bank  
*President and CEO*



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley Abelow".

Bradley Abelow  
*Chair of the Board of Trustees*